

The Hartford News

Jan. 30 - Feb. 5, 2020



BENEFIT CONCERT FOR PUERTO RICAN EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS SATURDAY

Bomba Radio will host a special concert on Saturday, February 1, from 1 - 6 pm to raise money for victims of the recent earthquakes in Puerto Rico. The concert will be held at Favela, 145 Newfield Avenue, Hartford.

There is no admission charge, but all those attending are asked to make as generous a donation as possible to assist victims of the series of quakes that recently shook the island. Scheduled performers include Diel, Lyzbeth, Abigail, Choco Band, Alex Cabrera, Nikko y Rosario, Candela "Mr. Que Bonita Bandera," and Giova, plus special appearances by Charlie Cruz and Domenic Marte.

Those unable to attend are asked to donate online. Go to: CThelpsPR.org.



Hartford Youths Keep On Jumping

The JADHA Foundation's Rapid Fire Double Dutch Competition last Saturday at the Wilson Gray YMCA Youth and Family Center on Albany Avenue drew teams from Massachusetts, New Jersey and New York as well as Connecticut. The Hartford team is shown above, and included Iquan Chin, Harmony Holmes, Jahyah Chambers, Jaiyel Lindsey, Brian Jiles, Coryn Edwards, Areil Chaney, Kadan McGhee, Peyton Senior, Rhene Nurse, Mckenzie Mckenzie, Danae Carter, Paige Moore, Kiyah Sharpe, Diamond Buckley, Cieria Edwards, Mekhy, Laurie Ann Dejus, Chyanne Chavis and Shamari Williams. At left, rear, is Coach Beverly Chambers and at right is Coach Rodney Hogan. Other coaches of the team are Joan Carter, Melanie Chin and Lady Carrie McCrorey, who also serves as Executive Director and State Representative for CT American Double Dutch League, assisted by Rev Daryel McCrorey, Sr., Senior Pastor of Greater Joy Mission Church in Hartford. (Hart photo)

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR FORMER MAYOR CARRIE PERRY WEDNESDAY



The City of Hartford will hold a memorial service for former Mayor Carrie Saxon Perry on Wednesday, February 5, at 5:30 pm at the Artists Collective, 1200 Albany Avenue, Hartford. A reception will follow. The service is open to the

public. Those attending are encouraged to wear hats in honor of Perry, who was famous for her fashionable and often flamboyant headwear. Born and raised in Hartford, Perry attended Hartford public schools and graduated from Howard University. She was elected State Representative in 1980 and served until 1987, when she was elected Mayor of Hartford. Perry was re-elected in 1989 and 1991, but lost the 1993 election to Mike Peters. She later served as President of the Greater Hartford Branch of the NAACP.

NEWS BRIEFS

Town Hall Meeting TONIGHT with Police Chief Nominee

Mayor Luke Bronin will hold his monthly "Town Hall Meeting" tonight, Thursday, January 30, at 6 pm, at Hartford Public Library, 500 Main Street, Hartford. Acting Police Chief Jason Thody, who Bronin has nominated to take the position permanently, will be on hand to answer questions and discuss his plans for the police force.

"Wireless Friday" at Phillips Metropolitan

On Friday, January 31, Phillips Metropolitan CME Church, 2500 Main Street, Hartford, will present "Wireless Friday: Get Connected Community Fun Day" from 7 - 10 pm. The event is a chance to take a break from social media and other digital activities. Admission is free and there will be food and games for all ages, including dominoes, chess, play station, uno, movies and much more.

Benefit for Interval House February 6

On Thursday, February 6, Rachel Louise Snyder will be Interval House's guest speaker for a breakfast at The Hartford Club, 46 Prospect Street, Downtown Hartford at 7:30 am. Snyder will discuss her book, *No Visible Bruises: What We*

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Hartford...Once Upon a Time



This November 1963 Brown-Thomson advertisement from the Hartford Courant is typical of pre-digital merchandise illustrations. All the major department stores had artists and copywriters on staff who produced the dozens of ads that appeared in the newspapers every day. Window shopping was a favorite pastime in downtown Hartford, mainly because of the creative artistry of window-dressers who produced captivating displays. Hartford's retail hub that stretched several blocks along Main Street and down Asylum, Pratt, Trumbull, Church, and State provided thousands of living wage jobs. G.Fox & Company alone had more than 1,000 people on staff. In addition to sales clerks, managers, and buyers, in the 13-story emporium there were restaurant and bakery workers, maintenance, custodial, elevator operators, delivery truck drivers, seamstresses and tailors, warehouse and receiving staff, telephone operators, and at least 100 behind the scenes in various offices. It was not unusual for employees to have decades-long retail careers downtown, advancing in their positions through dedication, loyalty, and ability. It's all just a memory now, but a pleasant memory nonetheless.

Biennial Ballot Battle

Three Slates Running in the 6th District Democratic Town Committee Election

BY ANNE GOSHDIGIAN

A crowded field will be jockeying for position on Tuesday, March 3rd, when registered Democrats living in Hartford's 6th District will go to the polls to choose the candidates who, if elected, will participate in choosing the candidates that the party will endorse in municipal elections.

The 6th District encompasses a large portion of Hartford's Southwest neighborhoods, an area with a very active NRZ and higher than average voter turnout. The DTC is not a Hartford government entity, but the district elections held every two years are overseen by the office of the Secretary of State and conducted by the city's Registrar of Voters.

These elections only occur if there are challenges to an incumbent slate in any of the districts. Now in 2020, there are two slates challenging the incumbents in the 6th, and with 14 candidates on each slate an unprecedented 42 people are in the race; only the 14 with the highest individual vote totals will gain (or retain) a seat on the DTC. The three slates are listed below:

Continued on page 8

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Boys & Girls Clubs Start 160th Anniversary Celebration

Ground to be Broken for New South End Club this Spring

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Hartford (BGCH) kicked off its 160th anniversary celebration last Wednesday, Thursday, January 22, by unveiling the architectural rendering of a new club to be built in Hartford’s South End.

begin construction in the spring.” Swift also launched the “Dig In” community campaign to reach BGCH’s goal. Donations may be made at the website: bgchartford.org/southend. The first Boys & Girls Club in

ple in over 4,000 clubs nationwide. BGCH Board Chair Alan Kreczko explained the board’s decision to build a club in Hartford’s Southend. “BGC had become nationwide, but not city-



Members of the Boys & Girls Club of Hartford (BGCH) on Sigourney Street gather with state and city elected officials and BGCH leaders following the official announcement that ground will be broken for a new club on Ledyard Street in Hartford South End this spring (below). (Hart photo)



Construction on the new 27,000 square-foot facility is set to begin this spring and the building is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2021.

Currently, BGCH operates three clubs in Hartford: Asylum Hill at 170 Sigourney Street; Southwest at 1 Chandler Street; and Trinity, 1500 Broad Street, as well as two in-school clubs at Moylan School and West Middle School.

At Thursday’s press conference, which was held at the Asylum Hill Boys & Girls Club on Sigourney Street, BGCH official also announced the kick-off a fund-raising campaign for the new South End Club.

South End Club Capital Campaign Chair and The Hartford’s Chairman and CEO Christopher Swift, “With community-wide support from political leaders, the local community, businesses, individuals and foundations, we have made substantial progress toward our fundraising goal and are confident that we will

the nation was created in Hartford in 1860. Originally called the Dashaway Club and located at the “old Morgan Street School,” the club was founded by four women, Mary Goodwin, Alice Goodwin, Elizabeth Hammersley and Louisa Bushnell, who believed that boys who roamed the streets should have a positive, healthy place to live and grow. From these beginnings, Boys & Girls Clubs has grown to become the largest youth organization in America, serving more than 4.2 million young peo-

wide,” said Kreczko. “Nearly one-third of Hartford’s children live in the Southend, but, currently, we have no way to reach them. The new South End Club will soon be able to reach another 1,500 of them.”

“We are proud to be part of the broad coalition of community, business, nonprofit and governmental leaders who are coming together to bring a Boys and Girls to children who live and go to school in the southeast part of Hartford,” said Mayor Luke Bronin.

Quilted with Love this Saturday at CHS

Celebrate Valentine’s Day at the Connecticut Historical Society (CHS), 1 Elizabeth Street, Hartford, this Saturday, February 1, from 10 am - 1 pm by creating your own teddy bear “quilt” and special valentine cards! Explore our new exhibit, *Pieces of American History: Connecticut Quilts*, for inspiration. Free First Saturday and the associated family program are free, open to the public, and great for all ages! Please note that free admission does not include the Waterman Research Center. For more information, contact Katerina Mazzacane, Coordinator of Youth and Family Programs, at Katerina_Mazzacane@chs.org or call (860) 236-5621 x222.

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Politically Speaking

A Fresh Look at Issues
Facing our Region & State

BY MIKE MCGARRY

REGIONALISM?

The ongoing myth is that some sort of State-enforced regionalism makes sense. Many legislators, some big businesses and media outlets, especially the *Hartford Courant*, seem to think that forcing towns to give up services and support to a mythical “region” is somehow worthwhile. They lurk, ready to pounce at any opening.

Well, let’s look at the history of regional efforts. CRRA? Well, now it’s called MIRA and nobody knows its fate. MDC? Sorry, everybody’s favorite whipping boy – sorry, whipping person. Greater Hartford Convention and Visitors Bureau? Now its a statewide organization with just a modest modest budget and located in Middletown. The Tourism District? It’s also in Middletown now, serving 62 towns and unknown to most. The MetroHartford Alliance and the Greater Hartford Arts Council also have lower profiles than they did in the past. The Capital Region Council of Governments seems to be harmless enough, working with towns in many ways to combine sensible services and some bulk purchases, but this is all done in a cooperative fashion without faceless, hatchet-style interference.

Most mayors, first selectmen and

town managers say they get along just fine with their neighbors and work with them when it makes sense to do so. Many school districts also share all kinds of assets.

The arguments made by those pushing a more aggressive regionalism is that we have too many school superintendents, police departments, fire departments, etc. But that is what the local population wants and is usually happy to pay for. Residents are happy to have local people providing public services. They are easy to reach and familiar with the local needs and concerns.

Some backers of regionalism point to county governments as the ideal. Well, just ask the residents of Fulton County, New York. We are familiar with that county which has lost population every decade for the past half century. Residents pay town/village taxes, school taxes, county taxes and sometimes other levies. Just getting to the right level of government can be quite a task!

So, if residents of the Greater Hartford region want local control and access to their local government, maybe things are okay the way they are. If change comes, let it be driven from the bottom up, not the top down.

In My Opinion

McGuire & ACLU Pimp Black Death While Protecting The Police

BY DAVID SAMUELS

Mubarak Soulemane was a Black teen coping with mental illness, who became the latest casualty of U.S. police culture on January 15 after being fatally shot by Connecticut State Police in West Haven. The details of the shooting have been well documented. Buried in the coverage was family members telling WTNH that Mubarak had no history of violence, nor did he have a criminal record. U.S. police kill at a rate of 70 times more than police in all other “first world” nations. A disproportionate number are Black, Latinx and Indigenous. Like Mubarak, who family members said struggled with schizophrenia, at least 50% had some type of disability.

- “Fact: In the first 24 days of 2015, police in the US fatally shot more people than police did in England and Wales, combined, over the past 24 years.”
- “Fact: Police in the US have shot and killed more people – in every week (during 2015) –

than are reportedly shot and killed by German police in an entire year.”

- “Fact: Police in the US fatally shot more people in one month (during 2015) than police in Australia officially reported during a span of 19 years.”

Source: *The Guardian*

The U.S. is an international outlier in terms of police killings. Other countries have teens in crisis like Mubarak, and somehow manage not to kill them. In 2018 we watched the video of Toronto Constable Ken Lam, who confronted van attack suspect Alek Minassian and took him into custody without using force. Minassian has been charged with 10 counts of first-degree murder and 13 counts of attempted murder following the van attack on Yonge Street, a busy area in the city. Minassian tried to get Lam to shoot him, by pulling out a cellphone as if it was a gun. Lam would not fire. He instead de-

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Letter to the Editor

Congenital Heart Defects Week is February 7-14

Congenital heart defects are the number one birth defect in the United States. 1 in every 110 babies is born with one or more CHDs. Although science has helped treatment plans improve for this population, CHD remains a leading cause of death for children.

This is real life for me, as my daughter Micaela has Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome. She lives with only half of a working heart. There is no way to describe the emotional, physical and financial toll this can take on a family. Life hasn't been the same but we are blessed to have this strong and fiery little girl in our lives and are fortunate to have found a great support system in It's My Heart New England and CCMC's Cardiac team in Hartford. However, CHD doesn't get the funds needed to do progressive research to turn things around.

CHD awareness week is February 7-14. Awareness is vital to the future of those living with CHD. It encourages children who continue in their journey but it lets the world into the lives of those whose journey was cut short. Through early detection and diagnosis, better treatment options and CHD research, these children and adults have a better chance at living longer, healthier lives. That's all we could want.

Connecticut has so many children who have suffered through many trials and tribulations; CHD doesn't have to be another silent attack on our children.

Sincerely,
Michelle Roach, Hartford

Temperance, Prohibition and the Volstead Act

From 1920-1933, the production, importing, transportation and sale of alcoholic beverages was outlawed in the United States. Commonly referred to as the "Prohibition Era," this ban on alcohol was enacted by the 18th Amendment to the United State Constitution.

The passage of the 18th Amendment, also known as the Volstead Act, came after years of pressure for such a law from the Temperance Movement, which started in the late 18th century and continued to gain support in the 19th and into the 20th century. Supporters of the movement, many of whom were pietistic Protestants, sought to reduce and hopefully eliminate the many ill effects of alcohol consumption, such as domestic violence, crime and saloon-based political corruption. Many who supported temperance also sought the eradication of slavery, which was outlawed in 1865, and the practice of polygamy, which was officially banned in the Mormon Church in 1890. With these two societal ills eliminated, the push for the banning of alcohol intensified.

Before the ratification of the 18th Amendment, Congress had passed the temporary Wartime Prohibition Act in 1918, which banned the sale of alcoholic beverages having an alcohol content of greater than 1.28 percent. President Woodrow Wilson vetoed the 18th Amendment, saying the country lack the resources to enforce it, but his veto was overridden by Congress.

However, banning the manufacture, transportation and sale of alcohol did not eliminate the demand for it, and people soon found ways around the law. Doctors prescribe medications containing alcohol. "Speakeasies," clubs that sold liquor illegally, proliferated. Alcoholic beverages were manufactured illegally or transported into the country illegally by criminal gangs. Satisfying the nation's continued demand for liquor became a very profitable illegal activity and fueled the growth of organized crime.

In addition to these problems, the stock market crashed in 1929 and the Great Depression began. The government needed money to build up the nation's economy, and making liquor legal (and therefore taxable) again was a way to increase revenue. And so the 21st Amendment, which repealed the 18th Amendment, was passed by Congress and ratified on December 5, 1933.

Despite the repeal of Prohibition, the Temperance Movement continues the battle against the drinking of alcoholic beverages, and its ill effects, to this day. Starting in the 1980s, stricter laws were enacted in an attempt to reduce the number of people driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. Thanks in large part to these laws, deaths due to alcohol-related accidents has been dramatically decreased. For instance, according to *The National Review*, "in 1982, 5,244 people ages 16 to 20 died in drunk-driving accidents; by 2008, that number had fallen to 1,987."

The Temperance Movment is also alive in other countries. In England, the organization Alcohol Concern holds Dry January, in which people abstain from alcohol for the entire first month of the year. I am confident our own society would benefit from a similar campaign, it is well known what alcohol does to the body, along with its other harmful effects. I applaud Alcohol Concern for its efforts and letting us know that the Temperance Movement is still in action in 2020.

Dr. Jewel M. Ellison

Whose Job Is It To Clean Up?

COMMENTARY BY DONNA SWARR

When a crime scene is being secured, it is common practice for the police to use yellow and black tape to designate the area that is not be entered by the public. But so often, when this occurs near or around our parks, the tape is tied to a park post or fence, and there it remains. Who is responsible for removal of this tape? Is it the police who tied it on? Is it park's maintenance staff? Is it the Friends of Colt Park? In early November a car veered into Barnard Park knocking over a bollard and seriously damaging an expensive wrought iron fence. Not only does the person who damaged the fence not get billed for it, but the black and yellow tape is still there. The bollard was put back in place, but there are no funds to repair this fence and the tape makes the area look even worse. This past Saturday, seven shots were fired just north of Colt Park on Wethersfield Avenue. I saw



long strips of tape blowing in the wind from Colt's front fence on Sunday. There was similar situation on a private fence across the street. On Monday, the tape was still there at 5 p.m. I decided that I had better remove the one on the Colt Park fence as no one else is going to do so. Therefore, my questions are not rhetorical – who is supposed to remove the yellow and black tape after a crime scene has been processed, HPD, DPW park staff , or the Friends of Colt Park?

I believe it is the police. I believe their failure to do so reinforces the mindset of a significant number of residents who think that it's DPW's job is to pick up the trash they throw on the ground. I am not trying to shame anyone, but I am curious. Do you agree that the police should remove it? Send your thoughts to hartfordnews@aol.com or post them on our Facebook Page, Hartford News-Southside Media.

Hartford Job Corps Now Enrolling New Students

The Hartford Job Corps Academy, located at 100 William Shorty Campbell Street, Hartford, is now enrolling new students. This federal training and education program is free to low income young people, ages 16-24. Career paths include manufacturing, insurance and financial services, and clinical medical assistance.

Those accepted into the program may live on or off campus. Open Houses and Campus Tours are held every Monday and Thursday starting at 9 am.

For more information, call 800-733-5627 or go to the website: www.recruiting.jobcorps.gov.

ActUp Theater to Present Black History Month Musical

In February, Hartford's ActUp Theater will present STAND, an original social justice musical, in honor of Black History Month.

The show will be presented two times only, at 3 pm and 6 pm on Saturday, February 8, at the Black Box Theater at the newly renovated Weaver High School, 415 Granby Street, Hartford. Both shows will be followed by a talk-back session in which the performers and audience members will discuss some of the issues raised by the play.



STAND takes place in a classroom lock-down after students witness an event and refuse to come forward. Each character is forced to confront their choices, retrace their past, and face their humanity. These stories are told and intertwined with dynamic dances, poetry, and inspirational songs that give the audience a refreshing take on a musical.

Tickets for STAND are \$25 (\$20 for seniors and students) and may be purchased at STAND2020.eventbrite.com or at the door.


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Si tiene alguna pregunta, comuníquese con la oficina del CRPC 860-724-4292 o envíe un correo electrónico a crpcstaff@crcog.org. Las ciudades se reservan el derecho de rechazar cualquiera o todas las ofertas, o parte de cualquiera o todas las ofertas, si dicha acción se considera que es lo mejor para los pueblos.

CAPITOL REGION

All bid notices for the Capitol Region Purchasing Council are available at <https://crcog.bonfirehub.com/>. CRCOG is also requesting proposals for a communications services consultant.

If you have any questions, please contact the office of the CRPC 860-724-4292, or e-mail crpcstaff@crcog.org. The towns reserve the right to reject any or all bids, or any part of any or all bids, if such action is deemed to be in the best interest of the towns.




Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association
A Hartford Neighborhood Revitalization Zone

News & Views



HARTFORD
HAS IT



ASYLUM HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

From the
Executive Director
BY DAVID MACDONALD

As we enter the middle of winter, when the largest snowstorms tend to hit CT, AHNA is tracking how well folks clear their sidewalks. Asylum Hill is a walkable neighborhood and it's important that our sidewalks are cleared soon after a winter storm. AHNA's Quality of Life Committee has been going out after snowstorms to document with photos whether landlords, businesses and the city of Hartford are clearing snow off their sidewalks in a timely manner. Per city ordinance, all property owners must:

- 1) Clear all sidewalks abutting your property, including crosswalk entries and curb cuts of snow and/or ice within six (6) hours after the completion of a snow or ice event, or before 9:00AM when the snow has fallen overnight.
- 2) Sand/salt sidewalks, as necessary, to provide a safe and convenient path for pedestrians. If sidewalk extends to the face of curb the entire sidewalk to the street edge must be cleared of ice and snow.
- 3) Remove snow from roofs near street line that may slide and endanger public transit.
- 4) Clear snow/ice from fire hydrants near your home.

Failure to comply can result in a fine of \$99 per day until the problem is corrected. The results of our survey of sidewalks in Asylum Hill, will be posted on our Facebook page, AHNA-Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association. If you are interested in helping with our sidewalk survey please contact me at exdir@asylumhill.org. If you have any questions about this city ordinance and its enforcement, please call the city at 311.

We invite all our partners, stakeholders and residents to attend the next General Meeting on February 3rd and to help us launch our new year of activity for 2020.

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

AH Churches Sheltering the Homeless

Before the beginning of this winter, it became clear to Kelly Gonzalez that there will be people homeless, and there will be limited shelter space available. Some of those who are homeless will be parents with children. So Kelly, the Program Coordinator at the Salvation Army's Marshall House, coordinates with 211 to find temporary shelter for those in need. She was familiar with a model being used in New Haven and thought it might work in Hartford. Through Logan Singerman, she connected to a small group of church members to see what they could do to help. The solution that they came up with was to share the responsibilities seven ways and to commit to opening up space in their church buildings one night a week from early December to the end of March to provide a warm place to sleep, at least for those few hours.

Two of the seven churches are here in Asylum Hill, Immanuel Congregational Church and Asylum Hill Congregational Church, and they have accepted responsibility for Tuesday and Wednesday nights respectively.

The guests need to contact 211 to be connected to the program, and by 3:00 pm the church is notified as to who and how many to expect for that night. On a recent Tuesday

night, there were about 8 individuals staying at Immanuel, about half of them, children. The children ran around sliding on the waxed floor and playing with one another as children often do when presented with the opportunity. The parents shared in the meal that some volunteers provide as part of the offering.

The effort is divided into those who prepare and deliver the food, those who come to make sure all the basic needs are met, and then at least one volunteer who stays the night to make sure everyone is safe and sound. In the morning, another volunteer comes to relieve the overnight volunteer and see to it that they all are out by 8:00 am.

A week and a day later, it was Asylum Hill Congregational Church turn, and they set up eight portable beds that come from the City of Hartford through Salvation Army. They used both Twitchell Hall, and their youth classroom, to serve the dinner and to allow a more comfortable space for one of the families. The families start arriving at about 5:30pm and dinner is served about 6:00. Those who are coming need to be at the church by

10:00 pm, with the last showing up after they get off work at 9:00.

Yes, several of those homeless families include a parent who works full time, which doesn't guarantee enough income to stay sheltered. One mother with two children takes an Uber in the morning to drop one child at a school bus stop, and the other who was ill to a friend to take care of before going to her full time job. In the evening she reverses the trip.

The program has given these homeless families a lifeline while they work to regain stable housing, and a lasting personal experience for the dozen or more volunteers who are able to meet and get to know them.

The experience has been really enriching for all concerned. Clearly, for those in need of a warm place to stay, the added bonus of a warm meal and compassionate conversation with friendly volunteers is great, but for the volunteers to be able to put a human face and a little of their life story into the mix really helps to understand how devastating homelessness is in their lives.

AH Then & Now

Farmington Avenue Hotel



This photo from the Hartford History Center at the Hartford Public Library is dated 1906, and it seems to have been built slightly before that. In checking the Hartford City Directories, also at HHC, (Hartford History Center) we find the address as 57 Farmington Ave., which would put it where the State office building at 55 Farmington now stands. By 1958, it is no longer listed as the Farmington Avenue Hotel, and by 1974 the address is no longer shown. In between, it appears to have been used as an office building, often with many vacant units.





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Art exhibit at Immanuel Congregational

BY BERNIE MICHEL

Most churches in general, and several of the neighborhood churches use the walls of their fellowship halls to display art as a way of enhancing the spiritual experience for their members. They are usually displayed for weeks or in some cases for several months or more. For those who are fortunate to attend meetings as these churches, it becomes like an accidental gallery, and an extra perk for the volunteers at the meetings.

I appreciate good quality photographs, so I was recently taken by the photos now on display at Immanuel Congregational Church's fellowship hall, enough to ask about it. Rev. Isaac Lawton told me they were the work of John Karrer, a member of Immanuel and agreed to connect me to John.

We met there at the church in the fellowship hall and talked for more than an hour. The stories that he told were every bit the equal of the photographs for their ability to stir the soul. I won't try to tell any of them here, as I don't think I can do them justice, but there is a chance you'll be able to hear them in person, as ICC has an occasional event that they call "Second Hour", where someone comes to speak on an inspiring topic after the fellowship following the Sunday service.

I have reason to believe that John will do that soon, and I'm hoping for advance notice, which I will share with everyone I can. In the meantime, you can Google John Karrer and find these interesting articles

- <https://www.courant.com/news/connecticut/hc-xpm-1998-11-13-9811130281-story.html>

- <https://www.courant.com/news/connecticut/hc-xpm-1997-06-22-9706220177-story.html>
- <https://www.nytimes.com/1990/06/10/nyregion/no-headline-881790.html>
- <http://www.riverfront.org/about-us/news/97-Happy-Walks-in-the-Park>
- plus his photography website <http://www.karrerphotostudio.com>



I have also been told that the fellowship hall is open Monday through Friday from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm for any who would like to see these photographs, and for those who aren't available during the week, Immanuel is open each Sunday at 10:00 am for an inspiring worship service followed by fellowship in the "gallery".

HartBeat's New Artistic Director

Godfrey Simmons Jr. is the new Artistic Director for HartBeat Ensemble, and that is really good news for HartBeat, Asylum Hill and Hartford. The results of a nation-wide search brought him and his family, wife Sarah Chalmers and son Samuel, to our neighborhood from Ithaca NY.

Originally from Virginia, and William & Mary College, he began acting there, but the path to here was not a straight theatrical line. Fresh out of college he wrote for an industry publication in Washington DC for a year and during that time auditioned for and got his first professional acting job. This led to becoming a teaching artist in schools, a thing that was much in demand at the time. He continued to work in DC, Philadelphia and New York, both acting and taking teaching artist jobs until a resident professional teaching associate program was established at Cornell University. Actors were hired to both act and teach acting. That brought him to Ithaca, and that brought him to Sarah. They worked together on the program and later to co-found the Civic Ensemble of Ithaca, a theater production company much like HartBeat.

In many ways, it was his son Samuel who caused him to look for a more diverse community in which to raise him. Cornell is very diverse, but Ithaca, not as

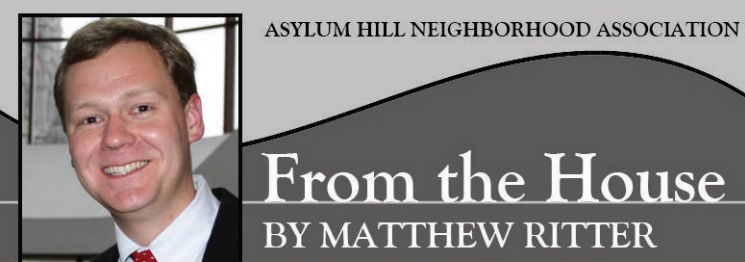


much. So when the opportunity at Hartbeat came up, Godfrey and Sarah were ready to move. It's not like they were jumping blindly into something, years before Godfrey spent 8 weeks acting in a play at Theater-Works. He could appreciate both the current economy of Hartford and its deep cultural richness.

In looking to the future Godfrey said "My vision for HartBeat is to at once go deeper and broader... because HartBeat deserves it and Hartford deserves it."

For the upcoming season, which is likely to be 18 month long, all of 2020 and the first half of 2021. *Pagao* by Cin Martinez will likely be brought back, and the plan is to do *My Children! My Africa!* by Athol Fugard. The Youth Play Institute will be expanded this season to three productions and WTF will

be back as well. Lots to look forward to. Keep an eye on AHNA's Facebook page, and Event's & Things to Do page on the website for updates on their schedule.



2020 Legislative Session

The legislative session kicks off on Wednesday, February 5th. In a short legislative session, every second counts. Crunch time begins immediately as we open the 2020 session of the General Assembly. We have three months to address health care priorities. We have three months to focus on education policy. We have three months to address hundreds of potential issues. Every issue is important, but the clock is always ticking. The timeframe can be daunting, but my colleagues and I are committed to advancing policies that make Hartford, and all of Connecticut, a better place to live, work and raise a family.

It has been great hearing from you at events like the West End Civic Association meeting and Asylum Hill NRZ meeting. If you haven't seen me out and about and you have any policy ideas or issues, please contact me at Matthew.Ritter@cga.ct.gov, or by phone at (800) 842-1902.

I have already been in contact with our House committee chairs and they are already working to turn policy ideas into fully-formed legislation that is ready to be debated on the floor of the House. It has been great hearing from you at events like the West End Civic Association meeting and Asylum Hill NRZ meeting. If you haven't seen me out and about and you have any policy ideas or issues, please contact me at Matthew.Ritter@cga.ct.gov, or by phone at (800) 842-1902.

NEW SATURDAY HOURS, 9 am–1 pm

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A sliding fee scale is available based on family size and income. No patient will be denied health care services due to an individual's inability to pay. Funding is provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Improvements to the Family Health & Wellness Center are supported in part by the State of Connecticut Nonprofit Grant Program, the Connecticut Health & Educational Facilities Authority, the Maximilian E. and Marion O. Hoffman Foundation, and the Ensworth Charitable Foundation. Additional support is provided by Delta Dental of New Jersey Foundation. Wheeler is a Health Center program grantee under 42 U.S.C. 254b and a deemed Public Health Service employee under 42 U.S.C. 233 (g)-(n).

News Briefs

Continued from page 1

Don't Know About Domestic Violence Can Kill Us—named one of the Top 10 Books of 2019 by The New York Times. She will also discuss how domestic violence can seep into the workplace and how corporate leaders should remain aware to protect their employees and themselves. A book signing will follow the program and books will be available for purchase. All proceeds benefit Interval House, working to end domestic violence. Tickets for the event are \$50 and are available at www.novisiblebruises.eventbrite.com or by calling (860) 838-8451.

Welding Course for Women Starts February 10

In February, Capital Workforce Partners, the Jobs Funnel and the CT Department of Labor will offer “Women Can Weld,” a no-cost training program that introduces women to profitable, secure careers in welding. The program is 10 weeks long, 30 hours a week, Monday through Friday, from 7:00 am - 3:30 pm. “Woman Can Weld” will be conducted by the Ironworkers Local 15 Joint Apprenticeship Training. Classes begin on Monday, February 10 at 49 Locust Street in Hartford’s South Meadows industrial area. To qualify for the course, you must be: 18 or older; be a resident of Connecticut; have a valid CT driver’s license; have reliable transportation; be physically fit to do the work; have

a high school diploma or GED; be able to pass a drug test; and willing to commit to the 10 week training program (hours 7:00 am-3:30 pm). The program includes program includes: a math refresher course & test preparation; 10 weeks of technical training; an opportunity to meet and network with women in the field; and workplace readiness and basic construction skills – “hands-on” experience. Upon completion of the program students will receive certifications in: flagging and signaling; fire watch; 10-hour OSHA construction worker; scaffold user/dismantler; CPR and first aid; and forklift operation. For more information please call 860-899-3448. To fill out an application: www.capitalworkforce.org/weld

MARG Meets February 13

The Maple Avenue Revitalization Group (MARG) will hold its monthly meeting at 6 pm on Thursday, February 13, in the lower level of St. Augustine Church, 10 Campfield Avenue, Hartford. State Representative Joseph Verengia, chair of the legislature’s Public Safety & Security Committee, Chair, will discuss juvenile crime. There will also be a presentation by the Hartford Preservation Alliance and a discussion of public safety in the neighborhood. The meeting is free and open to the public. For more information, call MARG President Hyacinth Yennie at 860-296-5543.

Yard Goats National Anthem Auditions

The Hartford Yard Goats Baseball Club, the Double-A Eastern League affiliate of the Colorado Rockies, will be holding National Anthem Auditions at Dunkin’ Donuts Park, 1214 Main St., Hartford) on Saturday, February 15th at 9:00 AM. Singers of all ages are welcome to audition for the opportunity to sing the National Anthem at a Yard Goat game. There are a limited number of tryout slots available and it is required that singers register in advance on the website, www.yardgoatsbaseball.com. The Yard Goats open the 2020 season on April 9th (7:10 PM) against the Red Sox affiliate, the Portland Sea Dogs. Yard Goats season tickets are available by calling 860-246-GOAT (4628), or in person by visiting the Click It or Ticket Box Office at Dunkin’ Donuts Park.

KNOX Urban Greenhouse Party February 21

KNOX, Inc. will hold its annual “75” An Urban Greenhouse Party” on Friday, February 21 from 7 to 11 PM in the KNOX Greenhouse, 75 Laurel Street, Hartford. The event will include beer, wine and appetizers plus other surprises. Music will be provided by DJ Hakim Zarif. There will also be a silent auction with live plants. Tickets are \$45 (unless purchased before Feb. 1) or \$50 at the door. To purchase, go to: www.knoxhartford.org,

Nominations Open For 2020 CT Arts Heroes Awards

If you know a special someone who has contributed to the arts in Connecticut, please take a moment to nominate this individual. The deadline to submit a nomination is February 3, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. To place your nomination, go to the website: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2020HEROES>. The Connecticut Arts Hero Awards honor and celebrate Connecticut residents who are doing extraordinary things in the arts, for the arts, and through the arts in Connecticut. Since 2016, the Connecticut Arts Hero Awards have honored remarkable individuals engaged in or supporting the arts - some publicly and some behind the scenes. The Arts Hero Awards will be presented at an open-to-all, free evening event on Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at Infinity Hall in Hartford.

HPL’s African American Book Club

Hartford Public Library’s African American Literature Book Club meets the first Tuesday of every month at the Downtown Library, Classroom 141, 500 Main Street, Hartford, from 6-7:30 pm. This Tuesday, February 4, the group will discuss *Tears We Cannot Stop* by Michael Eric Dyson; discussion facilitated by Steve Riege. New members are welcome. Please RSVP to Carolyn Korber at cjkorber@gmail.com.

Baby Grand Jazz Series Continues Sunday with Matt Chasen's "This Is Our Music" Ensemble

The Baby Grand Jazz Series at Hartford Public Library, 500 Main Street, Hartford, will continue this Sunday, February 2, with a free performance by Matt Chasen’s “This Is Our Music” Ensemble. Baby Grand Jazz Concerts will be held every Sunday through April 26 (except for Easter Sunday, April 19th), from 3 – 4 pm (doors open at 2 pm).

2020 Baby Grand Jazz Schedule	
Feb. 2	Matt Chasen's "This Is Our Music" Ensemble
Feb. 9	The Unity Quintet
Feb. 16	Emilio Solla Tributango
Feb. 23	Nathan Davis Sextet
March 1	Ron Smith Quintet
March 8	The Afro-Semitic Experience
March 15	Iris Ornig Quintet
March 22	Haneef N. Nelson Quintet
March 29	Ricky Alfonso Group
April 5	Envisage Collective
April 12	Easter (No concert)
April 19	The Joe Carter Samba Rio Quarteto
April 26	TAEKO

In My Opinion

Continued from page 2

escalated the situation. Seeing that Minassian was not holding a gun, Lam approached Minassian, holstered his gun and took out his expandable baton. Minassian then complied with Lam’s command that he get down on the ground.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee blessed art thou from amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus. Holy Mary mother of God, pray for us now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.

The Ten Commandments were given to Moses, for us all from God the almighty.

- 1) You shall have no other Gods but me
- 2) You shall not make for yourself any idol, nor bow down to it or worship it.
- 3) You shall not misuse the name of the lord your God
- 4) You shall remember to keep the Sabbath day holy.
- 5) Respect your father and mother.
- 6) You must not commit murder.
- 7) You must not commit adultery.
- 8) You must not steal.
- 9) You must not give false evidence against your neighbor
- 10) You must not be envious of your neighbor's goods. You shall not envious of his house nor his wife, nor anything that belongs to neighbor.

Universal Life Children's Church of Jesus Christ
The God is Good Ministries
Rev. Dr. Jewel M Ellison

Lam then took Minassian into custody.

ACLU executive director David McGuire could introduce legislation today that would implement an international model of policing here in Connecticut, in addition to Black community control of the police. The definition from the Movement for Black Lives website: “Direct democratic community control of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, ensuring that communities most harmed by destructive policing have the power to hire and fire officers, determine

disciplinary action, control budgets and policies, and subpoena relevant agency information.”

McGuire won’t do any of this, because the ACLU works with their fellow white elitists in city/state government and the police, to create law enforcement policies that are palatable to THEM. The ACLU talks out of both sides of its mouth, criticizing the police while cutting backroom deals with elected officials and law enforcement as they simultaneously sabotage grassroots Black activists.

In 2015 the ACLU Illinois chapter killed the Stop, Transparency, Oversight and Protection (STOP) Act, a strong racial profiling ordinance pushed by Black activists. From Black Agenda Report: “While grassroots activists were mobilizing support for the ordinance among Chicago’s communities and alderman, the ACLU entered secret negotiations with the Chicago Police Department and mayor’s office to broker an alternative agreement. On the very day that the STOP Act was to be filed by three aldermen, the ACLU announced the details of their agreement with city government. In effect, the ACLU used We Charge Genocide and STOP Act as a bargaining chip to advance a narrow policy goal.”

The ACLU blocked the Community Party’s Trayvon Martin Act racial profiling bill. We’re seeing the results of their two-faced policy agenda.

In God We Trust

- 1) Stand up for God & Jesus Christ in 2020
- 2) Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the spirit, which is the " Word of God " Ephesians 6v17. Ministry coming to the South End of Hartford in 2020
- 3) Oh, that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, & for his wonderful works to the children of men! Psalms 107v15
- 4) Oh give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endureth forever. Serve the Lord with gladness. Psalm 100v2
- 5) Bless the Lord O my Soul and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Psalm 103v1
- 6) God is greatly feared in the assembly of the saints & to be had in reverence of all them that are about him., Psalm 87v7

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El Informativo Latino

CEO Elegido Para El Nuevo Programa De Licencia Médica Familiar Pagado Del Estado

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) - El CEO de una organización de Hartford que sirve a personas con discapacidades intelectuales ha sido nombrado para supervisar la incipiente autoridad de licencia médica y familiar pagada de Connecticut.

Andrea Barton Reeves fue elegida de un grupo de 170 candidatos para el puesto. El CEO de Harc Inc. desde 2013, Barton Reeves también ha trabajado en el campo de

los seguros.

"Andrea Barton Reeves aporta una amplia experiencia en todos los campos que son críticos para la administración eficiente de este importante programa", dijo la teniente gobernador Susan Bysiewicz.

Se espera que el nuevo programa comience en 2022. Según la iniciativa, que Barton Reeves se ha encargado de establecer y adminis-

trar, los beneficios parciales de reemplazo salarial se financiarían a través de un impuesto de nómina máximo del 0,5% para casi todos los empleados de Connecticut que está programado para comenzar en 2021 .

Las personas elegibles recibirían beneficios mientras se toman hasta 12 semanas libres del trabajo para cuidarse durante una enfermedad grave, para un ser querido o un recién nacido durante un período de 12 meses.

Los beneficiarios elegibles recibirían una escala móvil para beneficios que van desde el 56% de los ingresos de un empleado para trabajadores mejor pagados hasta un máximo del 95% de lo que ganaría un empleado con salario mínimo.

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Hablamos Espanol

Harc and Wheeler Clinic Team Up for New Kids’ Dental Program

Parents and family members of loved ones with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) have many concerns, from finding appropriate educational supports, to accessing housing, health care, and more. A new collaboration between Wheeler and Harc, Inc. will help to relieve one of the burdens for Hartford residents with IDD: accessing person-centered, compassionate dental care.

Wheeler and Harc, Inc., a Hartford-based non-profit that serves individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), have teamed up on a unique project to meet the oral health needs of this medically underserved population in Hartford. The Wheeler-Harc Dental Collaboration, made possible through a one-year \$50,000 S.M.I.L.E. Grant from the Delta Dental of New Jersey Foundation, will serve low-income residents of all ages with IDD, including autism, through Wheeler’s community health center at 43 Woodland Street and through specialized linkages to care in the community.

The Wheeler-Harc Dental Collaboration includes consultation and training for Wheeler dental staff; review and implementation of practice enhancements; outreach, and coordination. Harc will provide consultation and training for Wheeler’s dental team to foster engagement and understanding of the unique needs of this population

and how best to deliver services, including, but not limited to, trauma-sensitive dental care, and extended visits. Patients’ family members also may be eligible to participate in training by helping to provide a patient perspective, as well as assisting Harc with training Wheeler staff.

This program includes the development of targeted marketing and resources for members of this community and their families, delivered across several channels, including social media, to raise awareness of services. Consumer care will be aided by supplies that enhance patient comfort, including adaptive dental tools, body supports, headphones, and more. Linkages to and engagement of additional dental professionals also are part of this effort.

During the grant period, Harc will conduct training for Wheeler community health center front desk staff, as well as the center’s practice manager, medical assistant supervisor, and dental team to foster a greater understanding of intellectual disabilities, the care environment, approaches to patient-centered interactions, and scheduling appointments. The trainings also will highlight care strategies for children with special needs and autism spectrum disorder, aging adults with IDD, and other considerations. Services will be provided for up to 75 patients throughout the course of the year.

6th District Town Committee Election

Continued from page 1

In 2018, a three-day court battle was waged prior to the DTC election in the 6th. A suit had been filed against the incumbent slate, claim-

ing that the plaintiffs had not proven their case; the incumbents remained to serve another two-year term.

This time around, three of the incumbents moved to form one of

6th District Town Committee Election CANDIDATES

SLATE 1	SLATE 2	SLATE 3
Kelly Bilodeau	Edward Casares	Milly Arcinegas
Jason Diaz	Betzaida Colon	Glen Geathers
Eli Joseph	Luis Delgado	Victor Gomez
Kate Kowalyshyn	Antonio Garcia	Thomas Grodecki
Patricia Miles	Geomary Molina	Gina Herboldt
Jackie Nadal	Eddie Perez, Jr.	Bradon Mejias-Wasy
Lille Parker	Epifanio Perez	Estela Morales Segarra
Agnes Perez-Flores	Jocelyn Perez	Marilyn Nazario
Alex Rodriguez	Yaira Rivera	Erii Orsaris
Juan Rodriguez	Hector Robles	Ivan Reyes
Pedro Torres	Hilda Rodriguez	Maly Rosado
Tyrone Walker	Victor Rodriguez	Carmen Sierra
Carl Williams	Tracey Sheedy	Delmarys Serrano
Hyacinth Yennie	Freddie Valentin	Barbara Sturges

ing among other things that one candidate actually lived in the 4th District but had given a 6th District address on an official campaign document signed by each candidate, which would have effectively voided the entire slate. More than a dozen witnesses were called to testify, and the court ultimately ruled

the two challenge slates along with 11 first-time candidates, a “mutiny” which has reportedly caused some friction in the 6th. A month of campaigning will begin in earnest next week. The three slates will hit the streets, post signs, knock on doors, send out mailings, and host meet-and-greets in what promises to be an interesting – and contentious – race.

